Works not given to lowest tenderers in 1108.

103. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state the items of works given not to the lowest tenderers by the P. W. D. in 1108 with the reasons for doing so?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—A list showing the works is appended. (*Appendix III*).

In entrusting works the rate of tender deduction is not always the only criterion but factors such as urgency of the work, capacity and experience of the contractors, etc, have also to be taken into account. With due regard to these, it is not always possible to accept the lowest tenders in all cases.

Nemmara Water Works.

104. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(1) how far they have progressed in the works this year in the Nemmara Water Works;

(2) what arrangements they have made for deepening another bore-hole and extension of branches;

(3) what steps they have taken in improving the Vallanghy tank?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) A spare set of machinery is being erected in the pump house. The distribution system is divided into two zones and the supply is satisfactory in all the taps. The supply from the bore-hole which showed signs of diminution towards the beginning of 1108 was restored to its original supply by increasing the sizes of eduction and air-lines.

(2) The question of deepening another bore-hole is postponed pending actual observation of the behaviour of the existing bore-hole on being tried by the new air compressor. Extension of branches will be laid in the following places; (1) Manangode, (2) Nadangode, (3) Palaparamba and (4) Aynampadam. When these extensions are laid practically the whole of Vallanghy and Nemmara will get the benefit of piped supplies.

(3) The question of improving the Vallanghy tank will be taken up after the question of another bore-hole is finally decided.

Rules for Communal representation in Madras.

105. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform—

(a) whether they have read the portion relating to 'communal representation' in the general rules published recently in the Fort St. George Gazette to regulate the method of recruitment, the conditions of service, etc.;

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(b) whether the Government have considered the advisability of adopting the rules embodied in the aforesaid portion relating to 'communal representation' 'mutatis mutandis' and if not

(c) what other method or plan they have considered necessary to adopt to redress the grievance given expression to in the Legislative Council, by the representatives of those communities which are not adequately represented in Government service ;

(d) whether the rules regarding communal representation passed by the Government of Madras be printed and placed on the table ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The point will receive consideration when the Public Service Commission is constituted.

(d) A copy of the Gazette containing the rules is placed on the Council table.

Water scarcity in the Kunnamkulam Girls' High School.

106. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the last year classes were held from 8 a. m. in the Girls' High School, Kunnamkulam ; and if so ,

(b) what was the reason for it ;

(c) whether this was done on account of scarcity of water;

(d) whether the Head-mistress has submitted any report in the last six years about scarcity of water ; and if so,

(e) how many times she has reported about it in the aforementioned period ;

(f) what action has been taken by the Government to provide enough water for the use of the school girls and teachers ;

(g) whether there was any proposal to acquire one of the neighbouring compounds or a part of it with a view to solve the problem or water scarcity ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Scarcity of water.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) Not less than half a dozen times.

(f) Boring operations were conducted but they were without success.

(2) Acquisition of the adjoining compound was contemplated, but the question is kept in abeyance for want of funds.

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